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NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN RUMANIAN STEEL INDUSTRY

HUNEDOARA STEEL PLANT BUILDS NEW FURNACE -- Bucharest, Viata Capitalei, 4 Nov 52

Blast furnace No 6 was placed in operation at the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej steel plant in Hunedoara on 2 November 1952. In a speech at the opening ceremonies, Marin Vintila, first secretary of the regiune party committee, declared that the furnace was of primary importance not only for the production of steel, but also for the training of skilled steel workers. A second speaker, Mara Saviton, director-general of the construction enterprise, declared that this project would have been impossible without the constant aid of Soviet technicians and Soviet machinery. All aggregates of the new furnace, which is the largest blast furnace in Rumania, were planned and built by Rumanian enterprises, according to Gheorghe Apostol, another speaker. Ion Popet, director-general of the plant, pledged successful operation of the furnace.

NEW DEVICES CREATED BY MATYAS RAKOSI STEEL PLANT -- Bucharest, Viata Sindicala, 19 Feb 53

The tool (utilaj) section of the Matyas Rakosi factory in Bucharest is producing poor quality motor parts, especially piston rods. In order to improve the quality of these parts, David Dolis, leading frazing machine operator, constructed a device whereby 24 piston rods could be adjusted at the same time. The first several tests failed, but later, through the aid of technician Florea Pestrita, the device was perfected and the total adjustment period for each piston rod has been reduced from 11 minutes to 3-4 minutes. The device finishes 150 pieces in the time formerly required for 50 pieces. This is the latest invention to come from the Matyas Rakosi factory, which announced seven other inventions and 15 new proposals during January 1953.

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Bucharest, Viata Sindicala, 2[illegible] Feb 53

A new type cutting tool was tested on 24 February 1953 on the lathes of the Matyas Rakosi factory in Bucharest. The new cutting tool was first tested by Nicolae Vãsu, who adapted it from the Soviet Kolesov method. The new tool increases the feed from 0.2-0.5 millimeters per revolution to 3 millimeters per revolution. The new cutting edges were first tested on pistons, which were 200 millimeters in diameter. These would ordinarily take 100 minutes to be finished, but now this time is reduced to 45 minutes. The feed of the improved lathe is 225 revolutions per minute.

Further tests by lathe operator Nicolae Vasu increased the feed from 0.5 millimeters to 1.25 millimeters per revolution, thus further reducing the time from 45 minutes to 16 minutes. The cutting edge was designed from a piece of H1 hard metal. Other experiments included placing the cutting edge at a 20-degree angle to the steel piece. The result was a further increase to 600 revolutions per minute, and an increase of feed to 2 millimeters per revolution.

Technicians and lathe operators of the Matyas Rakosi plant are undertaking further experiments to increase the feed to 3 millimeters per revolution. A new VK8 alloy is being tested for new cutting edges. These achievements represent the latest successes of the Rumanian machining practice.

RAPID LATHING METHODS AT SOVROMTRACTOR -- Bucharest, Viata Sindicala, 28 Feb 53

A new method of rapid lathing of metals, using carborundum ceramic plates, is being studied at Sovromtractor. The new plates are heat-resistant and can withstand temperatures of over 1,600 degrees Centigrade. The plates were tested on both iron and steel, with excellent results in both cases. Through the new method, the lathe can turn 890 revolutions per minute and can cut 880 meters of metal per minute, at a depth of 0.15 millimeters. This represents a tremendous advance over the 180 meters per minute attained in the past.

BETTER HEALTH CONDITIONS IN STEEL FACTORIES -- Bucharest, Viata Sindicala, 17 Feb 53

Large-scale sanitary measures are being undertaken throughout the Rumanian steel industry. This is especially true of the Gheorghe Gheorgiu-Dej metallurgical plant. New first-aid stations and cleaner rest rooms are being built, protective wearing apparel is being issued to workers, the air in the plant is being filtered for gases and other impurities, fans and other cooling apparatus have been installed, and other sanitary precautions are being taken.

These efforts are in honor of the recent International Conference for Social Security and Insurance. Following this conference, a central commission was established to determine shortcomings in sanitation in the Rumanian steel industry. Not long thereafter, plans were formulated for the creation of four dietetic canteens at the Gheorghe Gheorgniu-Dej steel plant Drinking fountains are being installed in every section of the factory and special containers with carbonated water will be installed in the high-temperature chambers of the factory. Washing machines will be installed to clean workers' clothes. A health laboratory will experiment with new health protection measures. The workers' housing center will have a new food canteen serving 150 persons, and a day nursery for 60 children. The commission is now investigating accident prevention.

SOCIAL SECURITY DEVELOPMENTS AT 23 AUGUST FACTORY -- Bucharest, Viata Sindicala, 14 Feb 53

Special committees have been set up in various factories to take measures for reducing sickness among metal workers. Dietetic canteens and dental first-aid stations have been set up at the 23 August factory. Workers who feign illness are punished. Nurseries are being established in or near factories to care for the children of working mothers.

Recent investigations showed that many workers from the plant remain on sick leave for longer periods than necessary. When this is found to be the case, the worker is either dismissed or pensioned.

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